

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJ: NEWFOUNDLAND MANNED SPACE FLIGHT SUPPORT FACILITY

1. IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLANNED NASA/USSR APOLLO/SOYUZ TEST PROJECT (ASTP) PRESENTLY SCHEDULED FOR A TWO-WEEK PERIOD IN JULY 1975, NASA HAS A REQUIREMENT FOR USE OF THE TEMPORARY FLIGHT SUPPORT FACILITY ESTABLISHED AT NEWFOUNDLAND FOR THE SKYLAB PROGRAM. THE AGREEMENT (TIAS 7281) CONCERNING THIS FACILITY WHICH ENTERED INTO FORCE FEBRUARY 23, 1972 EXTENDS UNTIL FEBRUARY 23, 1975, UNLESS TERMINATED AT AN EARLIER DATE BY EITHER GOVERNMENT UPON NINETY DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE. THE AGREEMENT HOWEVER, ADDRESSES ONLY THE SUPPORT OF THE SKYLAB MISSION.

2. FOLLOWING THE LAST SYKLAB MISSION THE STATION WAS PLACED IN CARETAKER STATUS. IT WOULD BE REACTIVATED EARLY NEXT YEAR FOR SUPPORT OF ASTP AND UPON TERMINATION CLOSED PERMANENTLY. CANADIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL IS AWARE OF NASA'S PLANS.

3. WITH EMBASSY CONCURRENCE WE PROPOSE TO PROVIDE FOR
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ASTP SUPPORT IN AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES AMENDING AND

EXTENDING THE AGREEMENT.

4. FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED DRAFT NOTE: QUOTE I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING ADDITIONAL USE OF THE TEMPORARY SPACE TRACKING FACILITY ESTABLISHED IN 1972 FOR SUPPORT OF PROJECT SKYLAB AND IN PARTICULAR PARAGRAPH 15 OF THE ANNEX TO THE 1972 AGREEMENT CONCERNING SUPPLEMENTARY ARRANGEMENTS. I PROPOSE THAT THE AGREEMENT BE EXTENDED UNTIL JUNE 30, 1976 TO COVER SUPPORT OF SPACECRAFT IN CONNECTION WITH THE NASA APOLLO/SOYJZ TEST PROJECT, A MANNED SPACE FLIGHT EFFORT OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL AERONAUTICAL AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION IN COOPERATION WITH THE SOVIET UNION. ALL OTHER STIPULATIONS OF THE AGREEMENT REMAIN THE SAME.

QUOTE: IF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT CONCURS, I PROPOSE THAT THIS NOTE AND YOUR REPLY TO THAT EFFECT SHALL CONSTITUTE A SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT AS PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH 15 OF THE ANNEX TO THE AGREEMENT SIGNED DECEMBER 20, 1971 AND FEBRUARY 23, 1972.

QUOTE: ACCEPT, SIR, THE RENEWED ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. UNQUOTE.

5. EMBASSY COMMENTS ARE REQUESTED. RUSH

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